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(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR HANGING A CABLE**

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H02G 3/04 (2006.01)
F16L 3/133 (2006.01)
F16L 3/127 (2006.01)

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CPC *F16L 3/233* (2013.01); *F16L 3/127* (2013.01); *F16L 3/133* (2013.01); *H02G 3/0456* (2013.01)

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See application file for complete search history.

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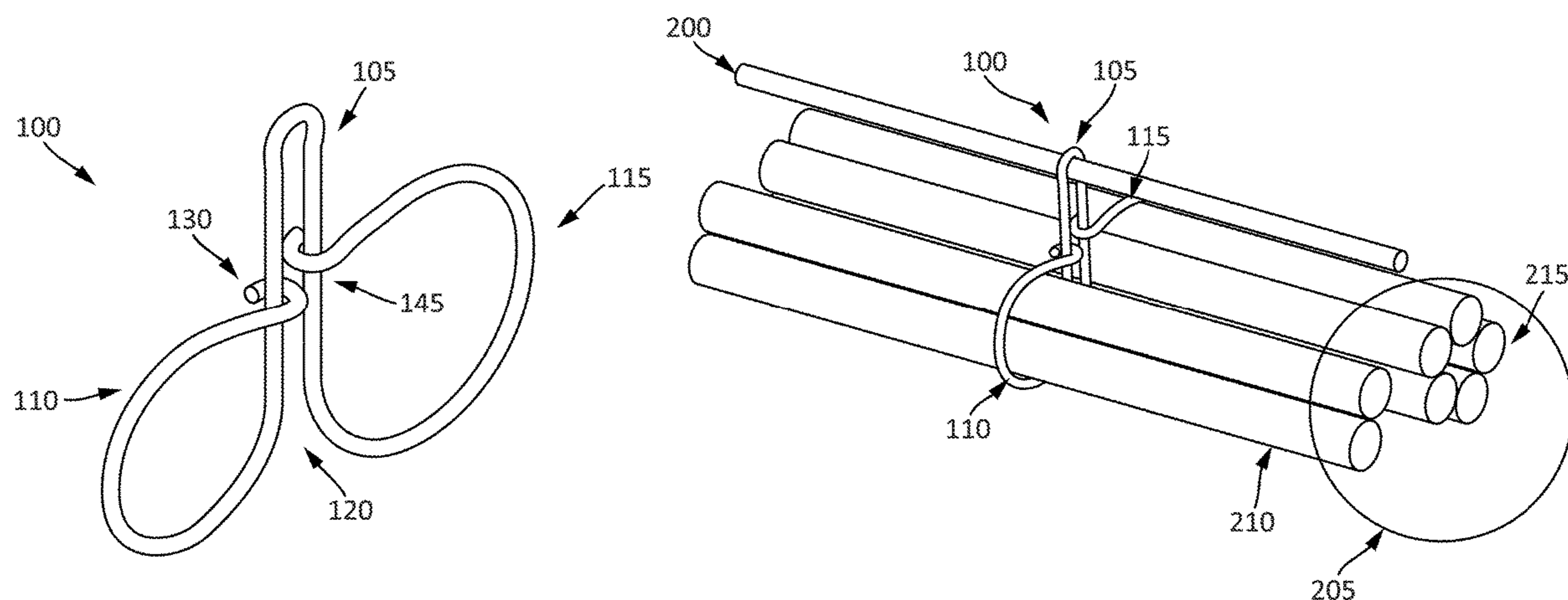
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A cable hanger includes a first cable support portion, a second cable support portion, and a hanger support portion. The first cable support portion is configured to hold one or more first cables. The second cable support portion is configured to hold one or more second cables. The hanger support portion is configured to retain the first cable support portion and the second cable support portion. The first cable support portion, the second cable support portion, and the hanger support portion are formed from a single piece of material.

10 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



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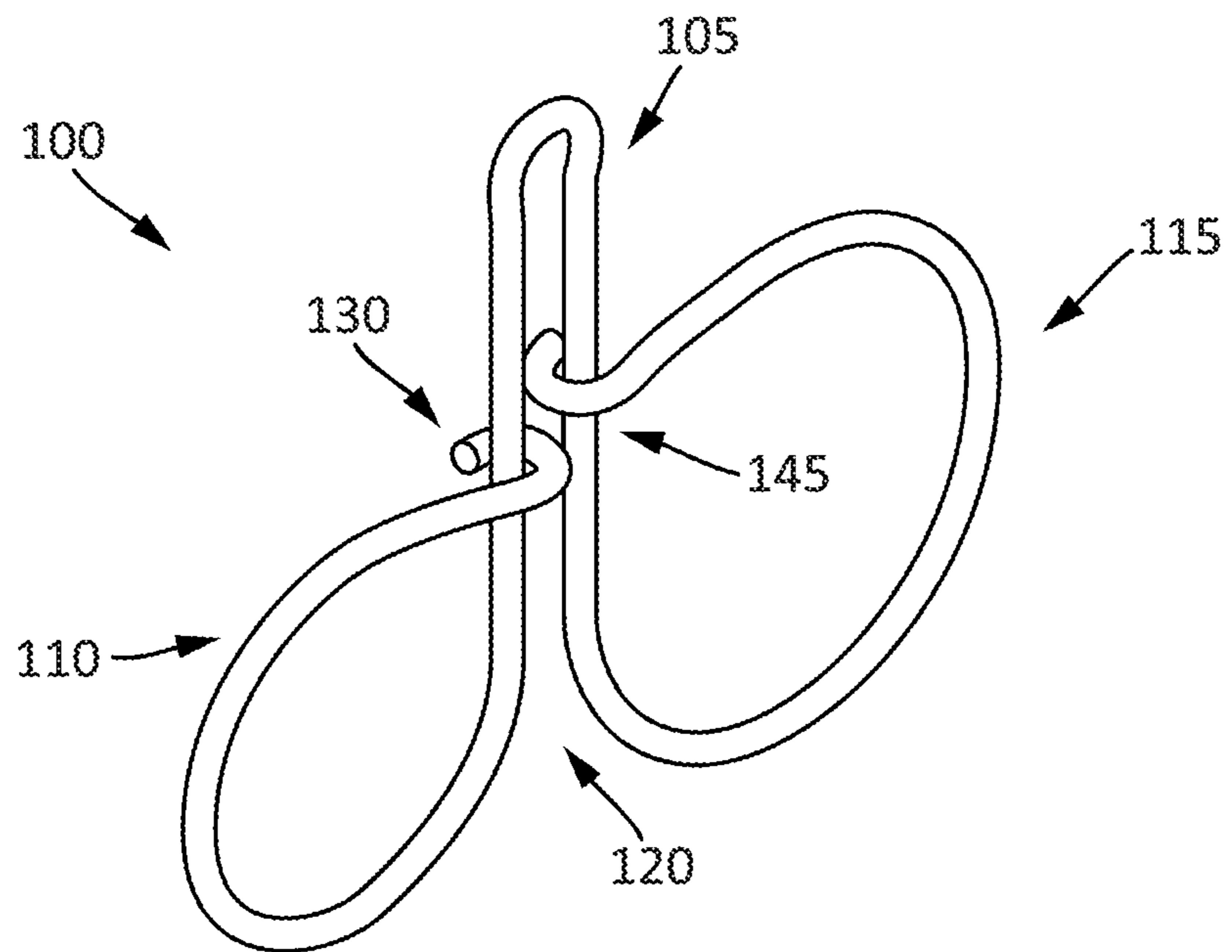


FIG. 1

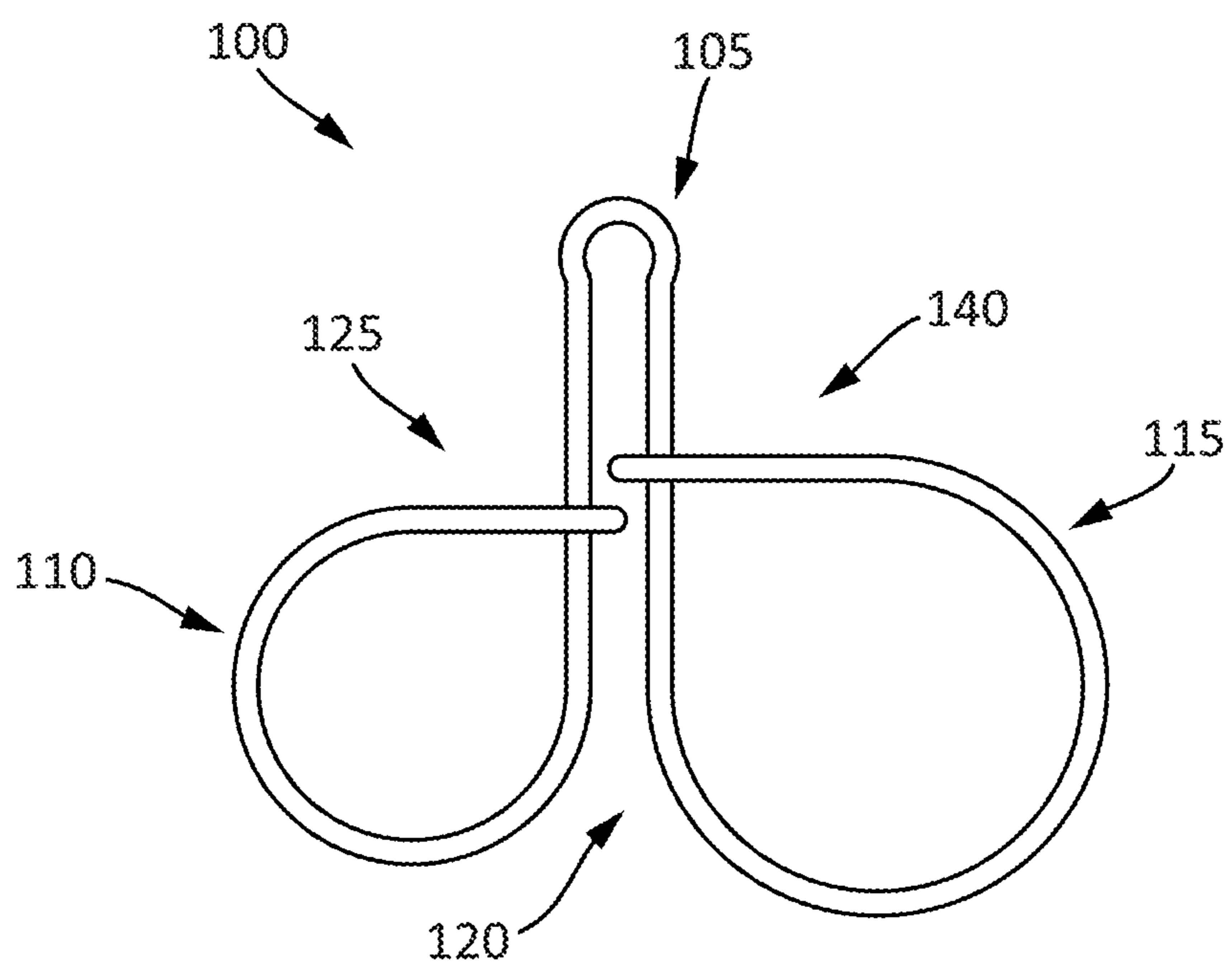


FIG. 2

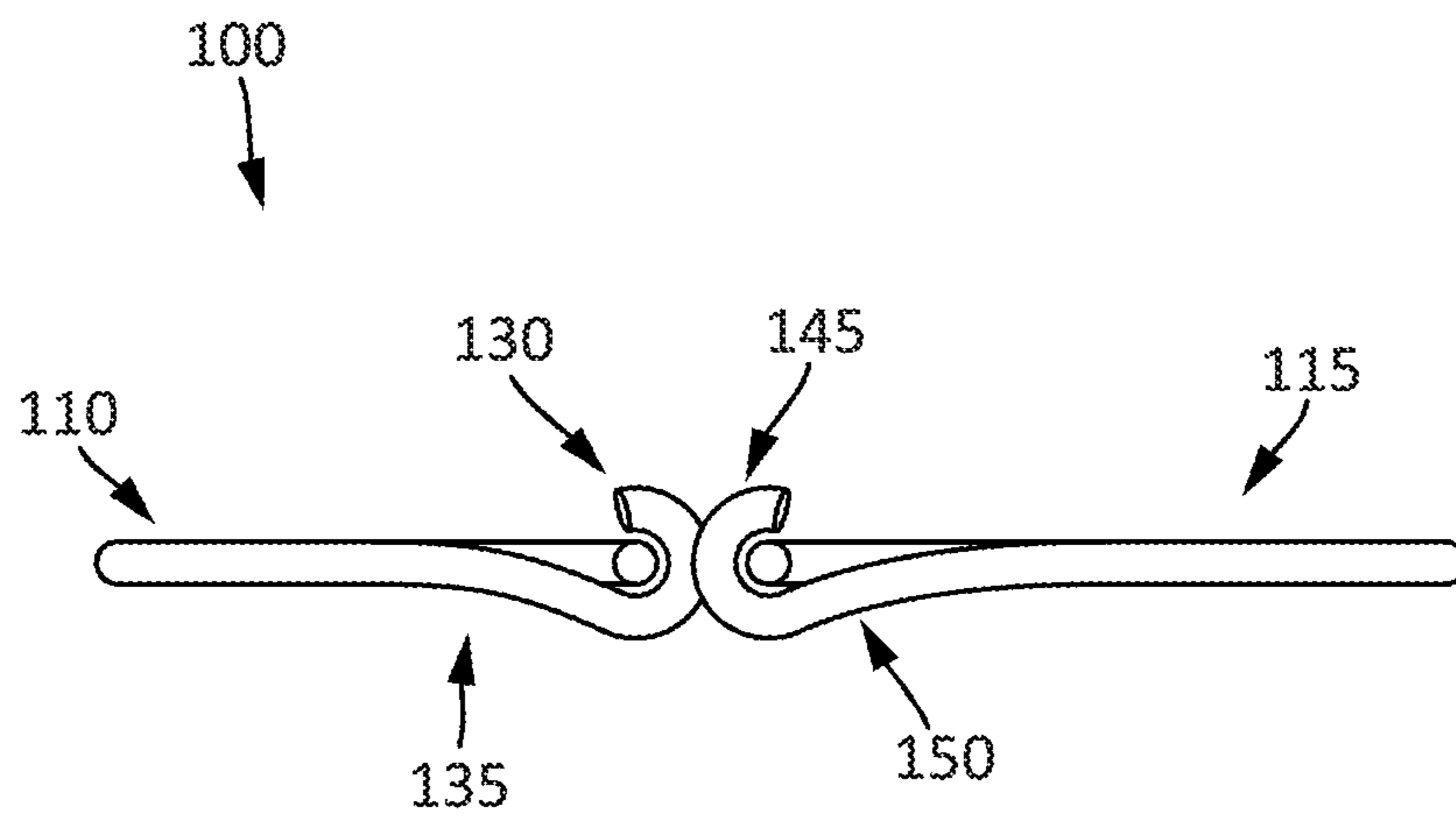


FIG. 3

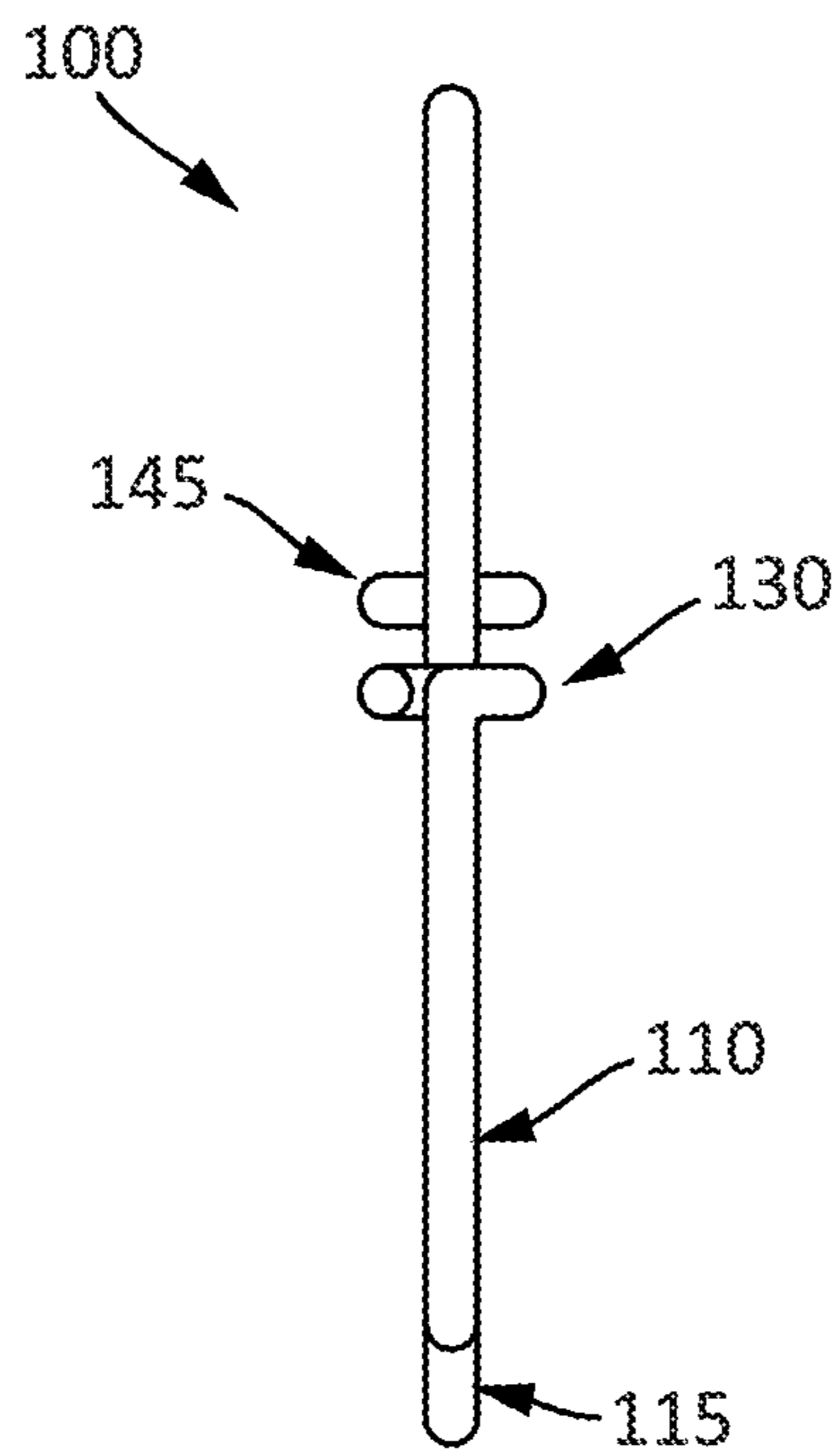


FIG. 4

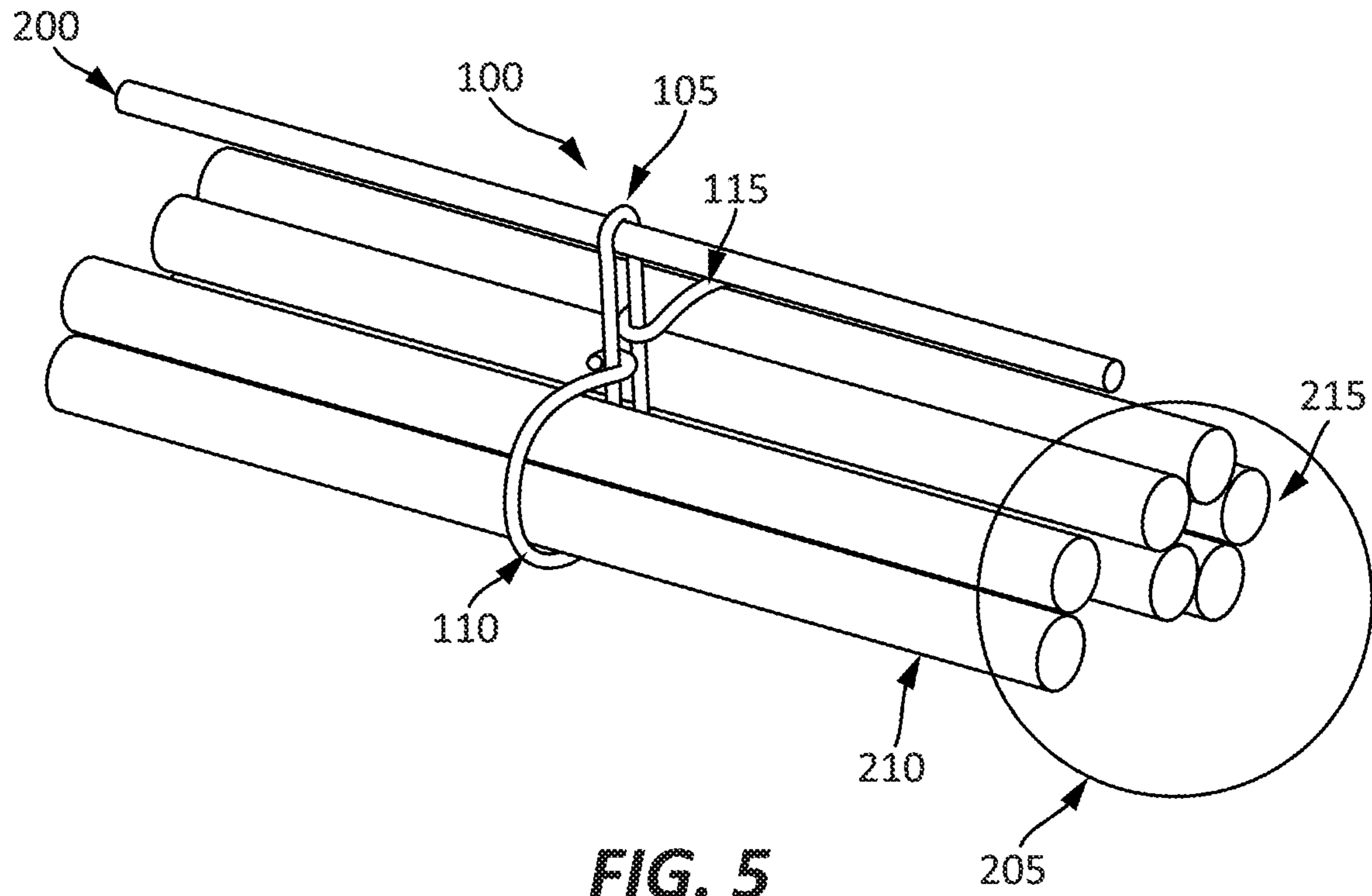


FIG. 5

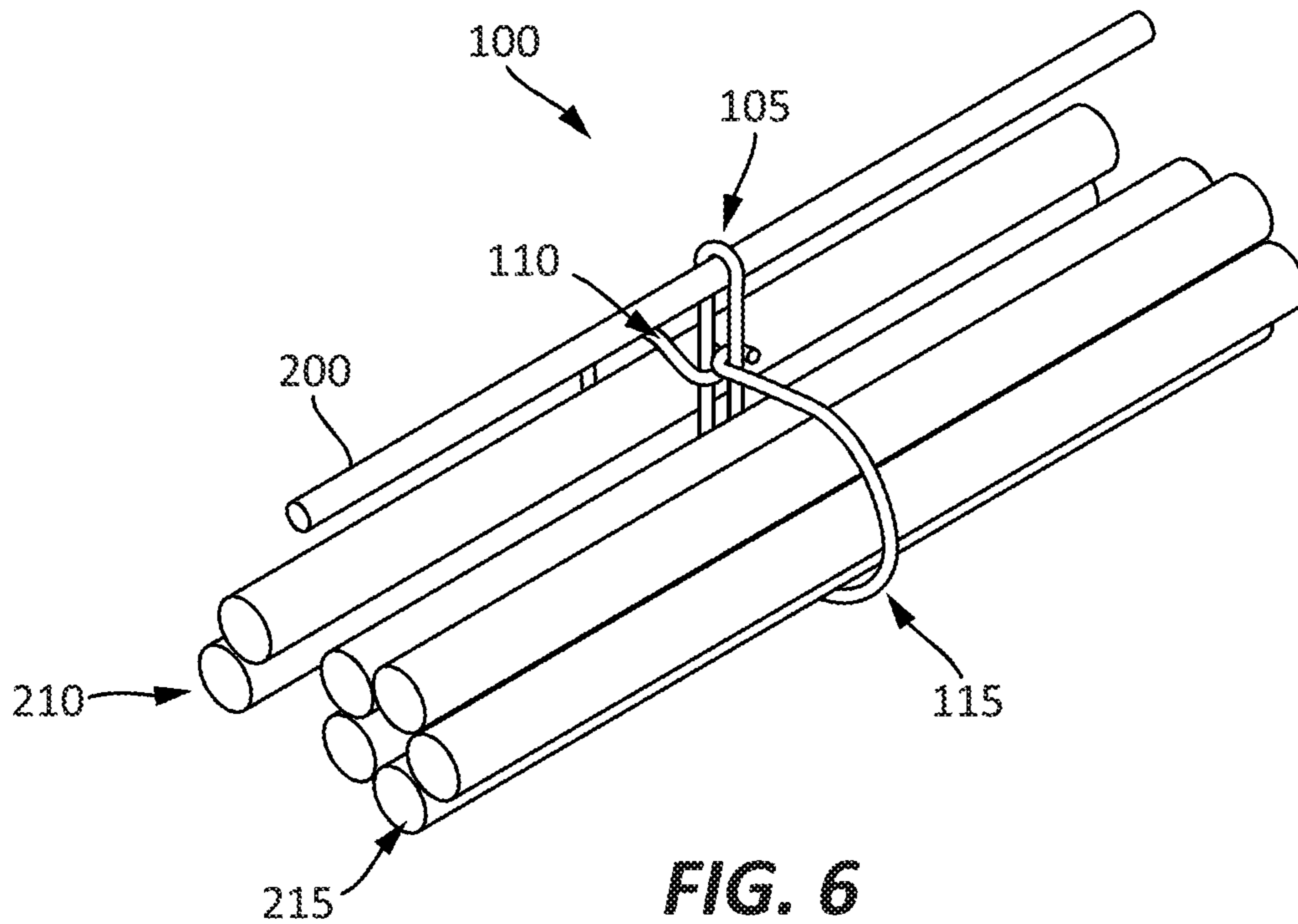


FIG. 6

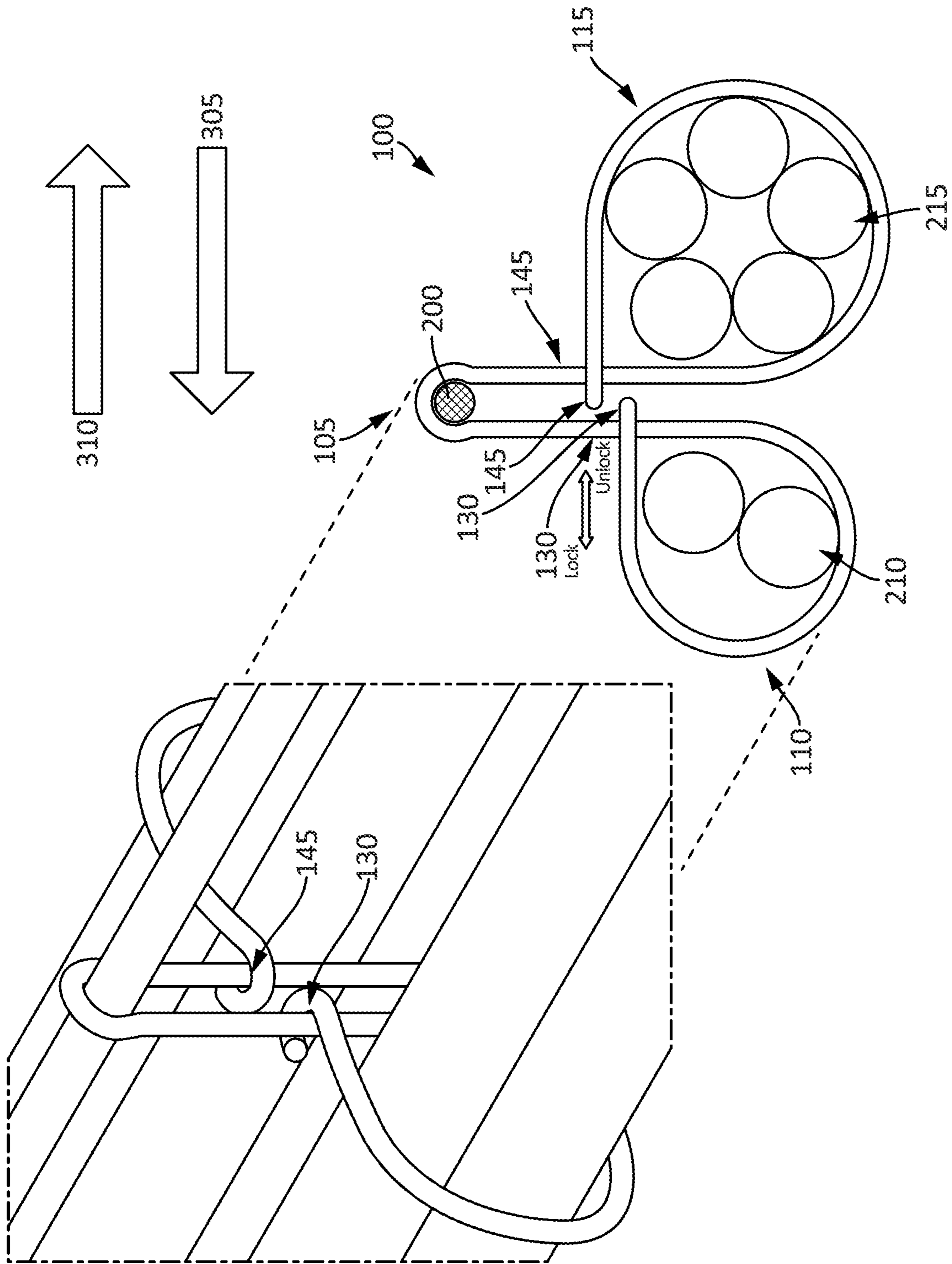


FIG. 7

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR HANGING A CABLE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The application claims priority to the U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/515,601, filed Jun. 6, 2017, the entire contents of which is incorporated by reference herein.

FIELD

Embodiments relate to a system and method for hanging cable.

SUMMARY

Problems may arise when trenching for underground cable. For example, there may be flooding and/or deep mud. Additionally, material costs and/or labor costs may arise with various construction and/or environmental issues once trenching begins. Carrying cable above ground eliminates the problems associated with trenching and provides more predictable project costs.

In one embodiment, a cable hanger includes a first cable support portion, a second cable support portion, and a hanger support portion. The first cable support portion is configured to hold one or more first cables. The second cable support portion is configured to hold one or more second cables. The hanger support portion is configured to retain the first cable support portion and the second cable support portion. The first cable support portion, the second cable support portion, and the hanger support portion are formed from a single piece of material.

Another embodiment provides a method of retaining one or more cables. The method includes providing a single piece of material and forming, from the single piece of material, a hanger support portion. The method further includes forming, from the single piece of material, a first cable support portion configured to hold one or more first cables, and forming, from the single piece of material, a second cable support portion configured to hold one or more second cables.

In yet another embodiment, an apparatus for hanging cable includes a hanging portion, a first compartment configured to retain one or more first cables, and a second compartment configured to retain one or more second cables. The hanging portion, the first compartment, and the second compartment are integrally formed as a single piece.

Other aspects of the disclosure will become apparent by consideration of the detailed description and accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a cable hanger according to some embodiments.

FIG. 2 is a front view of the cable hanger of FIG. 1 according to some embodiments.

FIG. 3 is a top view of the cable hanger of FIG. 1 according to some embodiments.

FIG. 4 is a side view of the cable hanger of FIG. 1 according to some embodiments.

FIG. 5 is a front perspective view of the cable hanger of FIG. 1 retaining, or holding, a plurality of cables according to some embodiments.

FIG. 6 is a rear perspective view of the cable hanger of FIG. 1 retaining, or holding, a plurality of cables according to some embodiments.

FIG. 7 is a front and an enlarged perspective view of the cable hanger of FIG. 1 retaining, or holding, a plurality of cables according to some embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Before any embodiments of the present disclosure are explained in detail, it is to be understood that the disclosure is not limited in its application to the details of construction and the arrangement of components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the following drawings. The present disclosure is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced or of being carried out in various ways.

FIGS. 1-4 illustrate a cable hanger **100** according to some embodiments. The cable hanger **100** is configured to hold, or secure, one or more wires, or cables. In some embodiments, the cable hanger **100** is configured to secure one or more cables having a combined weight of approximately 250 kg to approximately 300 kg. In some embodiments, the cable hanger **100** has a height of approximately 140 mm to approximately 215 mm and a length of approximately 175 mm to approximately 270 mm.

The cable hanger **100** includes a hanger support portion **105**, a first cable support portion, or compartment, **110**, and a second cable support portion, or compartment, **115**. The hanger support portion **105**, first cable support portion **110**, and second cable support portion **115** may be integrally formed as a single piece. In some embodiments, the cable hanger **110** is formed of a material (for example, a single cable of steel, a single rod of steel, a single cable of galvanized steel, a single rod of galvanized steel, a single cable of zinc plated steel, a single rod of zinc plated steel, a single cable of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) coated steel, a single rod of PVC coated steel, a single cable of PVC coated galvanized steel, a single rod of PVC coated galvanized steel, a single cable of powder coated steel, a single rod of powder coated galvanized steel, a single cable of powder coated galvanized steel, a single rod of powder coated galvanized steel, a single cable of PVC coated zinc steel, a single rod of PVC coated zinc steel, a single cable of powder coated zinc steel, a single rod of powder coated zinc steel, etc.). In some embodiments, the material is a rod having a thickness of approximately 4 mm to approximately 7 mm.

The hanger support portion **105** is configured to support, or secure, the first and second cable support portions **110**, **115** to an external device (for example, a guy wire, or messenger wire). In the illustrated embodiment, the hanger support portion **105** is open at a bottom portion **120** (FIGS. 1 and 2). In other embodiments, the hanger support portion **105** may form a closed loop. In some embodiments, the hanger support portion **105** has a radius of approximately 6 mm to approximately 13 mm.

The first cable support portion **110** is configured to support, or hold, one or more first cables **205** (FIG. 5). In the illustrated embodiment, the first cable support portion **110** forms a closed loop. However, in other embodiments, the first cable support portion **110** may be open at an upper portion **125**. In some embodiments, the first cable support portion **110** has a radius of approximately 19 mm to approximately 77 mm (for example, approximately 38 mm).

As illustrated, the first cable support portion **110** forms a loop, or ring-like structure, and is secured to the hanger support portion **105** by a first retainer **130**. The first retainer **130** may be configured to “lock” and “unlock” the first cable

support portion **110** in place. In some embodiments, for example as illustrated, the first retainer **130** is a hook. In such an embodiment, the first retainer **130** may have a radius of approximately 3 mm to approximately 7 mm.

As illustrated in FIG. 3, the first retainer **130** may include an angled portion **135**. The angled portion **135** is configured to promote the “locking” and “unlocking” while providing a secure connection between the first cable support **110** and the hanger support portion **105**. In some embodiments, the angled portion **135** has an angle of approximately 140° to approximately 170° (for example, 161°).

The second cable support portion **115** is configured to support, or hold, one or more second cables **210** (FIG. 5). In the illustrated embodiment, the second cable support portion **115** forms a closed loop. However, in other embodiments, the second cable support portion **115** may be open at an upper portion **140**. In some embodiments, the second cable support **115** has a radius of approximately 19 mm to approximately 77 mm (for example, approximately 50 mm). In some embodiments, the first cable support portion **110** and the second cable support portion **115** have substantially similar radii. In other embodiments, the first cable support portion **110** and the second cable support portion **115** have different radii.

As illustrated, the second cable support portion **115** forms a loop, or ring-like structure, and is secured to the hanger support portion **105** by a second retainer **145**. The second retainer **145** may be configured to “lock” and “unlock” the second cable support portion **115** in place. In some embodiments, for example as illustrated, the second retainer **145** is a hook. In such an embodiment, the second retainer **145** may have a radius of approximately 3 mm to approximately 7 mm.

As illustrated in FIG. 3, the second retainer **145** may include an angled portion **150**. The angled portion **150** is configured to promote the “locking” and “unlocking” while providing a secure connection between the second cable support **115** and the hanger support portion **105**. In some embodiments, the angled portion **150** has an angle of approximately 140° to approximately 170° (for example, 161°).

FIGS. 5 and 6 illustrate the cable hanger **100** secured to a wire **200** (for example, a guy wire, a messenger wire, etc.) and retaining a plurality of cables **205**. In some embodiments, the plurality of cables **205** includes one or more first cables **210** and one or more second cables **215**. In some embodiments, the one or more first cables **210** are direct-current (DC) cables, while the one or more second cables **215** are alternating-current (AC) cables. In other embodiments, the one or more first cables **210** are AC cables, while the one or more second cables **215** are DC cables. In yet another embodiment, the one or more first cables **210** include AC and DC cables and the one or more second cables **215** includes AC and DC cables. In yet other embodiments, the first and second cables **205**, **210** may be a combination of various cables.

In operation, the cable hanger **100** is secured to the wire **200** via the hanger support portion **105**, while the one or more first cables **210** are supported, or held, by the first cable support portion **110** and the one or more second cables **215** are supported, or held, by the second cable support portion **115**. Thus, the one or more first and second cables **210**, **215** are secured to the wire **200** via the cable hanger **100**.

As illustrated in FIG. 7, the first and second cable support portions **110**, **115** may be in a locked position or an unlocked position. In the locked position, the first and second retainers **130**, **145** of the first and second cable support portions **110**,

115, respectively, are secured to a portion of the hanger support portion **105**. In the unlocked position, the first and second retainers **130**, **145** are unsecured to the hanger support portion **105**.

In some embodiments, the first retainer **130** is biased in a first direction **305**. In such an embodiment, the first retainer **130** may be biased via the geometry of the first cable support portion **110**. In such an embodiment, a user applies force to the first retainer **130** in a second direction **310** to unlatch the first retainer **130** from the hanger support portion **105**. Once unlatched, the first retainer **130** is configured to move in the first direction **305**, via the bias, and thus unlock the first cable support portion **110**. Once unlocked, the one or more first cables **210** may be placed within the first cable support portion **110**. The first cable support portion **110** may then be placed in the locked position to further secure the one or more first cables **210**.

In some embodiments, the second retainer **145** is biased in the second direction **310**. In such an embodiment, the second retainer **145** may be biased via the geometry of the second cable support portion **115**. In such an embodiment, a user applies force to the second retainer **145** in the first direction **305** to unlatch the second retainer **145** from the hanger support portion **105**. Once unlatched, the second retainer **145** is configured to move in the second direction **310**, via the bias, and thus unlock the second cable support portion **115**. Once unlocked, the one or more second cables **215** may be placed within the second cable support portion **115**. The second cable support portion **115** may then be placed in the locked position to further secure the one or more second cables **215**.

Thus, the disclosure provides, among other things, an apparatus and method for retaining, or holding, cables. The apparatus and method described herein provide a user with the ability to hold cables above ground rather than trenching for underground cable routes. Various features and advantages of the disclosure are set forth in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of retaining one or more cables, the method comprising:
 - providing a single piece of material;
 - forming, from the single piece of material, a hanger support portion;
 - forming, from the single piece of material, a first cable support portion including a retainer, the first cable support portion configured to hold one or more first cables;
 - forming, from the single piece of material, a second cable support portion configured to hold one or more second cables, and
 - securing the retainer to the hanger support portion;
 wherein the single piece of material is formed of at least one selected from a group consisting of a single cable of steel, a single rod of steel, a single cable of galvanized steel, a single rod of galvanized steel, a single cable of zinc plated steel, a single rod of zinc plated steel, a single cable of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) coated steel, a single rod of PVC coated steel, a single cable of PVC coated galvanized steel, a single rod of PVC coated galvanized steel, a single cable of powder coated steel, a single rod of powder coated steel, a single cable of powder coated galvanized steel, a single rod of powder coated galvanized steel, a single cable of PVC coated zinc steel, a single rod of PVC coated zinc steel, a single cable of powder coated zinc steel, and a single rod of powder coated zinc steel.

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2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first cable support portion is formed into a first loop and the second cable support portion is formed into a second loop.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the second cable support portion includes a retainer, the method further comprising securing the retainer of the second cable portion to the hanger support portion.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more first cables includes at least one selected from a group consisting of an alternating-current (AC) cable and a direct-current (DC) cable.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more second cables includes at least one selected from a group consisting of an alternating-current (AC) cable and a direct-current (DC) cable.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the hanger support portion is configured to retain first cable support portion and the second cable support portion to at least one selected from the group consisting of a guy wire and a messenger wire.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the a retainer is a hook, the method further comprising biasing the hook in a first direction and wrapping the hook around the hanger support portion.

8. An apparatus for hanging cable, the apparatus comprising:

a hanging portion;

a first compartment configured to retain one or more first cables, the first compartment moveable between a lock position and an unlocked position; and

a second compartment configured to retain one or more second cables;

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wherein the hanging portion, the first compartment, and the second compartment are integrally formed as a single piece; and

wherein the first compartment is secured to a portion of the hanging portion in the locked position, and is unsecured to the portion of the hanging portion in the unlocked position;

wherein the hanging portion, the first compartment, and the second compartment are formed of at least one selected from a group consisting of a single cable of steel, a single rod of steel, a single cable of galvanized steel, a single rod of galvanized steel, a single cable of zinc plated steel, a single rod of zinc plated steel, a single cable of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) coated steel, a single rod of PVC coated steel, a single cable of PVC coated galvanized steel, a single rod of PVC coated galvanized steel, a single cable of powder coated steel, a single rod of powder coated steel, a single cable of powder coated galvanized steel, a single rod of powder coated galvanized steel, a single cable of PVC coated zinc steel, a single rod of PVC coated zinc steel, a single cable of powder coated zinc steel, and a single rod of powder coated zinc steel.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the first compartment includes a first loop and the second compartment includes a second loop.

10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the hanging portion is configured to secure the first compartment and the second compartment to at least one selected from a group consisting of a guy wire and a messenger wire.

* * * * *